

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

Atty. Dkt. No.: 9847-000007/US

DECLARATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name,

I believe that I am the original and first inventor or inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled:

COVERS, SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR COVERING DECK COMPONENTS

the specification of which (check one)

is attached hereto.
or
 was filed on [REDACTED] as Application Serial
No. [REDACTED] or PCT International Application No.
[REDACTED] and was amended on
[REDACTED] (if applicable).

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR § 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

POWER OF ATTORNEY

I hereby appoint Bryan K. Wheelock, Reg. No. 31,441, Joseph E. Walsh, Jr., Reg. No. 36,959, Rudolph A. Telscher, Jr., Reg. No. 36,032, Donald R. Holland, Reg. No. 35,197, Michael J. Thomas, Reg. No. 39,857, David M. Gryte, Reg. No. 41,809, Elizabeth D. Odell, Reg. No. 39,532, Kelly K. Burris, Reg. No. 46,361, Matthew L. Cutler, Reg. No. 43,574, Scott Gray, Reg. No. 48,891, Anthony G. Fussner, Reg. No. 47,582, Jacob Wharton, Reg. No. 52,428; Saul Zackson, Reg. No. 52,391, Robert L. Villhard, Reg. No. 53,725 and Lydia N. Nenow, Reg. No. 52,530
of Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C. [REDACTED], my attorney with full

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power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS

I request the Patent and Trademark Office to direct all correspondence and telephone calls relative to this application to
~~Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C.~~ 7700 Bonhomme, Suite
400, St. Louis, Missouri 63105 ~~(248) 641-1600~~

Full name of sole or first inventor: Rodney H. Thomas

Inventor's signature: *Rodney H. Thomas*

Date: September 12, 2003

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